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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 15 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by the Government of Malaysia on the mutual recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel and on the Agreement on Palestinian limited autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the statement could be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Razali ISMAIL
Ambassador

ANNEX

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia on the mutual recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel and on the Agreement on Palestinian limited autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho

Malaysia welcomes the decision reached between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on mutual recognition as well as the historic agreement for a Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza-Jericho occupied territories signed in Washington on 13 September 1993.

We view these latest events as a positive and forward movement in the long and arduous search for a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Malaysia has consistently urged for an early resolution of the Palestinian problem based on justice and through negotiations. In this context, we have lent our support to the Middle East peace process and have called all parties concerned to demonstrate the necessary political will and good faith in resolving the conflict. Malaysia has consistently and firmly supported the Palestinian cause and we hope this agreement is the first step towards the building of mutual confidence that would ultimately provide the solution of the Palestinian issue within the framework of the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which provide for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to a homeland and the security of all States, including Israel.

Malaysia would also like to take this opportunity to commend the Palestinian leadership for its realistic and courageous act in leading the Palestinian people towards a new and promising future.

We are confident that the PLO and Israel, as well as other Arab States in the Middle East, will build on this initial success and continue to strive to bring about a new era of long-lasting peace, stability and prosperity to the region.